

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04498 051503Z

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 EB-05 RSC-01 DRC-01 /014 W

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R 051425Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7455

INFO AMCONGEN ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 4498

FOR : COMMERCE/MEPD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BMPE, YO

SUBJ: MAJOR HOSPITAL PROJECTS IN SARAJEVO

REF : A. STATE 195605, B. BELGRADE 3517, C. ZAGREB 286

1. EMBASSY HAS AGAIN CONTACTED ING. BOGOLJUB KURPELJ BY TELEPHONE. HE RECEIVED TURNER CONSTRUCTION LETTER TOGETHER WITH EIGHT OTHER FROM U.S. FIRMS AND SEVERAL FROM OTHER COUNTRIES. KURPELJ STATES THAT NO CONCRETE ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN, SINCE REPUBLICAN GOVERNMENT OF BOSNIA AND HERCEGOVINA IS IN PROCESS OF FORMING SPECIAL COMMISSION RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL DECISIONS ON FINANCING, CONTRACTS AND CONSTRUCTION OF THREE HOSPITALS DESCRIBED IN REF C. ALL FOREIGN FIRMS THAT HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST, INCLUDING TURNER, WILL BE CONSIDERED BY COMMISSION. PRE-QUALIFICATION DETERMINATION IS EXPECTED BY NOVEMBER, AND THOSE SELECTED WILL BE SENT SPECIFICATIONS UPON WHICH TO START BIDDING PROCESS. HE INSISTED THAT MATTER IN HANDS OF COMMISSION AND THAT HE IS NOT ANSWERING ANY LETTERS AT THIS TIME. WE POINTED OUT THAT IT WOULD APPEAR DIFFICULT FOR COMMISSION TO MAKE PRE-QUALIFICATION SELECTION WITHOUT SOME ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF A FOREIGN FIRMS'S CAPABILITIES TO DO THE JOB, AND THAT A FIRM SUCH AS TURNER WOULD NEED TO KNOW BASIC PARAMETERS OF PROJECTS TO SUBMIT ITS QUALIFICATIONS. HE REPLIED THAT THIS TYPE OF EXCHANGE IS NOT NECESSARY AT THIS TIME, AND THAT TURNER AND OTHER FIRMS SHOULD MERELY WAIT TO HEAR FROM THE COMMISSION AND ARCHITECT, PERHAPS IN NOVEMBER. KURPELJ

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IS A MEMBER OF COMMISSION AND HIS FIRM IS SLATED TO BE LOCAL

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR.

2. COMMENT. HOSPITAL PROJECTS HAVE BEEN DELAYED BY SEVERAL MONTHS, AND IT IS LIKELY THAT FINANCING IS MAJOR FACTOR. TURNER AND OTHER U.S. FIRMS ARE STILL ENCOURAGED TO BID, BUT WILL PROBABLY NOT HEAR ANY FURTHER WORD UNTIL NOVEMBER AT EARLIEST. IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, AND IN ORDER TO KEEP INTEREST ALIVE, TURNER MAY WISH TO SUBMIT ITS GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERTISE IN HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION TO KURPELJ AT SAME ADDRESS PROVIDED IN REF B. PLEASE PASS FOREGOING TO TURNER.
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